

1-527/1



HEADQUARTERS
JAMAICA DEFENCE FORCE
UP PARK CAMP
KINGSTON 5
JAMAICA

Tel: (876) 926-8121-9 Ext 2039
Fax: (876) 926-8243
www.jdfmil.org

04 June 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**ALLEGED INJURY OF SIMION WATSON IN
STEER TOWN**

In reference to the unfortunate incident at Steer Town on Monday 09 March 2009 involving six-year-old Simion Watson, who was allegedly injured by an empty casing following a training exercise that was conducted in the area, the Jamaica Defence Force is still in the process of completing an extensive investigation into the matter. The investigation, which includes statements from Gloria Findlay (the mother of Simion Watson), who was personally interviewed, and Corporal Barnett of the Jamaica Constabulary Force (JCF), who was the initial investigating officer following Ms Findlay's complaint, is currently being reviewed.

The length of time taken to bring closure to this matter is a testimony to the extensiveness of the investigation which is necessary to ensure all the facts of the case are brought forward. After this review is completed the appropriate actions will be taken.

- END -

Major Ricardo O St M Blackwood
Civil/Military Co-operation Officer
Telephone 832-4534

Second Lieutenant Marie Henry
Civil/Military Co-operation Officer
Telephone 832-5530